



# Fact Sheet



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## LOCAL WELLHEAD PROTECTION PLANNING

The overall goal of wellhead protection (WHP) planning is to protect the ground water supplying community public water supplies. However, the level and degree of protection are defined locally.

Goal setting is critical. With wellhead protection, local goals may conflict. Different people have different priorities. Therefore, wellhead protection planning is a public process.

The local planning team (LPT) is responsible for identifying what is important to their community. Therefore, the LPT membership should consist of a good cross-section of people representing different community interests.

How to get a Local Planning Team together:

- C Ask for volunteers;
- C Public notice the formation of the local planning team (required);
- C Contact local news reporters;
- C Enclose announcement with bill mailing; and/or
- C Talk one on one with friends and neighbors.

Some suggested Local Planning Team Member affiliations:

- Local and/or county health department;
- Police and Fire departments;
- City/county administration, including planners;
- Industry and/or business;
- Environmental/conservation/community groups; and
- Cooperative Extension Service and the farming community.

Things to consider when defining the level and degree of protection:

- Those affected by WHP- what business/industry is in the wellhead protection area?;
- Political support, - what is the city/town council/board's role?;
- Accessible local expertise - are there educators, engineers, historians, librarians?;
- Available resources - time, money, personnel...will you need a consultant?; and
- Future use/demand - will you have the quantity/quality water you need?

What you can do now:

- C Identify potential local team members;
- C Determine potential member interest and expertise;
- C Compile and collect needed data, e.g., maps, well logs, etc.;
- C Determine possible options for wellhead protection in your area;
- C Make contact with state and local officials who can offer assistance;
- C Establish resources needed vs. resources available (budget); and
- C Ask for bids from different consultants who do delineations/wellhead plans -  
**Make sure any contract explicitly requires a *state approved* delineation/plan.**